Unskilled Daily Wages Working in Rural and Urban Telephone Exchanges of the Country

3634. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that unskilled daily wages are working as incharge of rural and urban telephone exchanges in different states of the country;

(b) if so, what is the number of such unskilled daily wagers with their relevent telephone exchanges, area-wise, State-wise, stating the date of their initial appointment;

(c) whether Government is considering to confirm them in jobs in perception of Supreme Court's direction to the Department of telecommunications;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof stating the time by which steps would be taken in this direction;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether Government have made any survey about the period of functioning of these rural and urban telephone exchanges including trunk booking; and

(g) if so, the details thereof stating the measures contemplated by Government to remove deficiencies in the present working system of telephone exchanges in rural and urban areas in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir. They are employed only to assist the regular employees.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) In the Department of Telecom. Casual Labourer with temporary status, on completion of 10 years as on 31st March, is being regularised every year.

(e) Does not arise so far as casual labourers are concerned.

(f) The rural and urban telephone exchanges including trunk booking function round the clock. Their working is monitored at all levels and there is no need for a survey.

(g) The deficiencies in the working systems of the telephone exchanges in the rural and urban areas are gradually being removed by the following measures.

URBAN AREAS:

1. Phasing out of old and life expired electro-mechanical exchanges.
2. Introduction of new electronic exchanges.
3. Introduction of PCM, optical fibre and digital microwave systems for inter-exchange junctions.
4. Laying of underground cables in ducts.
5. Replacement of old telephone instruments.
6. Replacement of worn out drop wires.
7. Replacement of heavy over head lines by underground cables.
8. Replacement of faulty underground cables and distribution points.
9. Computerisation of fault repair service.

RURAL AREAS:

1. Replacement of Manual and electro-mechanical exchanges by electronic exchanges.
2. Installing new electronic exchanges.
3. Providing stable media from rural exchange to the parented main exchange.
4. Provision of adequate and standby power supply to exchanges.
5. Use of solar energy.
6. Provision of Multi Access Radio Relay (MARR) systems.